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HUNGARIAN INVESTMENTS FROM 1947 THROUGH 1954

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From 1947 through 1954, government investments totaled 77 billion forints. The percentage distribution of this sum is shown in the following table:

Branch of Economy	Investments (%)		
	1947-1949	1950-1954	1947-1954
Heavy Industry	29.0	40.8	39.3
Light Industry	2.2	1.8	1.8
Food Industry	1.5	1.6	1.6
Building Industry	--	2.6	--
Agriculture	17.1	13.8	14.2
Communications	20.7	12.7	13.7
Commerce	2.4	2.5	2.5
Public Works	27.1	24.2	24.6

From 1947 through 1954, industrial investments were split between heavy industry and the consumer industry according to the following percentages:

Period	Heavy Industry	Consumer Industry
1 Aug 47-30 Dec 48	39.0	11.0
1949	38.3	11.7
1950	31.0	9.0
1951	32.9	7.1
1952	34.1	5.9
1953	33.2	6.8
1954	38.6	11.4

Industry

Between 1947 and 1949, work began on the model mine at Balinka, the textile combine at Szeged, the reconstruction of the alumina factory at Almasfuzito, and the construction of the electric meter factory in Gcdollo. These enterprises began producing in 1950 and 1951.

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Between 1950 and 1954, 75 industrial enterprises were put into operation. Of these, 44 were heavy industry enterprises; 10, light industry enterprises; and 21, food industry enterprises.

Only 16 of the 75 enterprises were built in Budapest, while 59 were set up in the province.

The physical location of these enterprises is not entirely satisfactory. In selecting the sites, the need for developing certain megyek was overlooked, and the locations chosen have proved inconvenient or uneconomical in several instances.

Beginning in 1950, major expansions were made in 84 more important industrial enterprises, while minor expansions, repairs, and improvements were made in almost every factory in Hungary.

Mining

The Balinka Model Mine (Balinkai Mintabanya) began producing in 1951. In addition, 32 new mine shafts were opened between 1950 and 1954; these accounted for one fifth of Hungarian coal production in 1954.

From 1950 through 1954, 16 coal cutters, 47 Ajtai-Szilard strippers and loaders, 6 Donbas combines, 28 loaders, 259 shaker conveyers, 730 scrapers, 366 rubber belts, 30 shaft transportation machines, and 126 endless rope haulers [scraper-conveyers?] were given to the mines.

Despite these additions, the degree of mine mechanization is still low, chiefly because the machines are improperly utilized so that the big combines contribute far less to productivity than they should.

Due to investments made in the field of petroleum mining, 50 percent of the petroleum produced in 1954 came from wells drilled since 1950.

Electric Power

Electric power production has been increased through the construction of power plants in the following places: Matra region, Sztalinvaros, Komlo, Tata-banya, and Diosgyor. Since 1950, over 3,100 kilometers of power line has been put up, one third of which carries a voltage of 100 and 120 kilovolts.

The major high-tension lines have been built between Szolnok and Szeged, Inota and Albertfalva, Inota and Sztalinvaros, and Kesznyeten and Debrecen.

Despite these achievements, development was retarded or complicated in several instances because the planned investments were not completed on time; some were put into operation only after repeated alterations, and some cost more than envisaged and had a capacity lower than designated.

Agriculture

From 1947 through 1954, 11 billion forints was invested in agriculture. Although the budget earmarked sums that increased yearly after 1950 for agriculture, this branch of the economy did not get the investment aid prescribed in the augmented Five-Year Plan. Fewer tractors and machines and less chemical fertilizer went to agriculture than specified in the plan.

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The mechanization of agriculture was begun during the Three-Year Plan. By the end of 1949, 221 MTS with 3,500 tractors had been established. Since 1950, the number of both MTS and tractors has increased considerably. From 1947 through 1954, agriculture received a total of 17,701 tractors and 4,448 threshers.

Only 4,500 tractors and 1,600 threshers were made available from 1947 through 1949.

The following table shows the number of major agricultural machines distributed to MTS and state farms from 1950 through 1954.

<u>Machine</u>	<u>Total No Distributed</u>	<u>No to MTS</u>	<u>No to State Farms</u>
Tractors	13,201	8,128	4,275
Tractor plows	11,970	8,828	2,660
Tractor harrows	8,301	5,240	2,813
Tractor cultivators	4,654	2,360	1,917
Tractor sowing machines	4,878	3,730	999
Reaper-binders	3,570	2,395	1,053
Combines	2,165	1,180	872
Threshers	2,848	2,471	377

Rural Electrification

In 1938, only 24.7 percent of rural communities were electrified. In 1944, nearly 2,200 villages were without electricity. The Three-Year Plan allotted 100 million forints for rural electrification. From this sum, electricity was introduced to 455 communities, 25 detached farming centers, 84 MTS, and 29 state farms. Electrification was stepped up in 1950, with installation concentrated on MTS and state farms. By the end of 1954, 70 percent of all communities had electricity.

The following table shows the number of communities, producer cooperatives, state farms, and MTS to which electricity was introduced from 1950 through 1954.

<u>Year</u>	<u>No of Communities</u>	<u>No of Producer Cooperatives</u>	<u>No of State Farms</u>	<u>No of MTS</u>
1950	175	49	63	122
1951	176	75	79	64
1952	160	95	85	36
1953	76	126	126	29
1954	83	136	113	39

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Afforestation

During the Three-Year Plan, 102,000 cadastral yokes [one cadastral yoke equals 1.42 acres] were afforested; from 1950 through 1954, over 430,000 cadastral yokes were afforested. The yearly breakdown during the latter period was as follows (in cadastral yokes): 1950, 58,900; 1951, 96,300; 1952, 116,100; 1953, 89,000; 1954, 86,000.

Irrigation

The area of irrigated land, including plow land, garden, meadow, pasture, and rice fields, has increased steadily since 1949. The irrigated area from 1949 through 1953 was as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Irrigated Land (cadastral yokes)</u>
1949	47,400
1950	56,700
1951	74,600
1952	93,200
1953	163,400

Transportation

In May 1945, the government ordered the repair of 10,000 railroad cars and 500 locomotives. By the end of 1945, the number of railroad cars had increased to 17,000 and the number of locomotives had doubled.

From 1950 through 1954, the railroads received new rolling stock as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No of Steam Engines</u>	<u>No of Passenger Cars</u>	<u>No of Freight Cars</u>
1950	10	109	1,158
1951	3	--	1,134
1952	15	--	742
1953	5	78	255
1954	--	66	275
Total	33	253	3,964

During the same period, 248 locomotives, 895 passenger cars, and 7,901 freight cars were renovated and put back into circulation.

During the Three-Year Plan, the state invested over 800 million forints in the railroads; railroad investments during the Five-Year Plan amounted to nearly 3.2 billion forints.

The failure to make repairs and replacements is particularly noticeable in the field of transportation, where it causes constant difficulties in the shipment of freight and passengers.

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Highways

By the end of 1949, the entire highway network had been renovated and 642 kilometers of approach roads had been built.

From 1950 through 1954, a total of 1,050 kilometers of modern highway was constructed. The following table shows highway construction from 1950 through 1954 according to type of road surface used (in kilometers):

<u>Year</u>	<u>Asphalt</u>	<u>Concrete</u>	<u>Macadam</u>
1950	50.1	90.2	225.2
1951	32.2	111.5	99.3
1953	31.9	60.2	74.1
1954	11.8	6.1	9.7

Communal and Housing Investments

To repair and rebuild public health institutions and housing destroyed by the war, 250 billion forints was spent during the Three-Year Plan. During this period, 161 hospitals were repaired, missing equipment was supplied to 186 hospitals, and thousands of village houses were built.

From 1950 through 1954, annual communal and housing investments comprised 12.1, 11.4, 10.8, 17.9, and 22.4 percent, respectively, of total investments.

The breakdown of communal investments during the same period is shown in the following table (in percent):

<u>Year</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Public Health</u>	<u>Cultural</u>	<u>Social</u>	<u>Other</u>
1950	40.0	8.5	26.6	3.5	21.4
1951	41.9	6.8	30.3	2.9	18.1
1952	39.9	6.9	31.3	2.9	19.0
1953	35.4	8.2	24.7	9.9	21.8
1954	43.9	10.8	16.2	8.9	20.2

Housing

In the course of the Five-Year Plan, an increasing percentage of all new housing was built by the state. In 1954, nearly twice as much housing was state-built as in 1950. The following table shows the breakdown between privately and publicly financed housing from 1950 through 1954 (in percent):

<u>Type of Housing</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
State-financed	23.4	37.8	44.2	54.7	43.2
State-supported	6.5	17.1	16.1	10.3	13.9
Privately built	70.1	45.1	39.7	35.0	42.9

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From 1952 through 1954, the following number of dwelling units were built: 3,030 in Sztablinvaros, 1,330 in Komlo, 1,180 in Miskolc, 800 in Varpalota, 730 in Tatabanya, 250 in Veszprem, and 570 in Gyor.

Despite this building, there is still a housing shortage.

Public Health

Public health investments have more than doubled since 1950.

Important public health institutions opened since 1950 include: the re-built and enlarged hospital at Szekesfehervar and the renovated Tetenyi-Street general hospital in Budapest, both opened in 1950; the children's tuberculosis department at Pesterzsebet and the receiving building of the Iaszlo hospital in Budapest opened in 1951; the enlarged tuberculosis sanitorium at Szolnok and two new isolation buildings of the Iaszlo hospital, opened in 1952; the enlarged State Koranyi tuberculosis institute in Budapest, clinic of surgery No 2 of Debrecen Medical College, the 80-bed Paras hospital at Pincehely, and the 70-bed Zalaegezszege hospital, all opened in 1953; and the maternity ward of the the Hungarian State Railways at Pecs, and new dispensaries at Miskolc and Ajka, all opened in 1954.

Education

Since 1947, over 1.5 billion forints has been spent on education. Schools have been built in many places which lacked elementary schools or where classes had been conducted in barracks. The following table shows the number of elementary and high school classrooms from the end of the 1948-1949 to the beginning of the 1954-1955 school year:

<u>School Year</u>	<u>No of Elementary Classrooms</u>	<u>No of High School Classrooms</u>
1948-1949	21,524	2,604
1950-1951	22,451	2,575
1951-1952	24,856	3,234
1952-1953	24,487	3,530
1953-1954	26,025	3,734
1954-1955	25,558	3,812

During this period, seven new elementary schools were established in Budapest, three with 16 classrooms, two with 10 classrooms, and two with 8 classrooms. In Pecs, two 5-room elementary schools were established; in Korosladany, one 12-room school; in Miskolc, one 10-room and one 4-room school; in Szikszo, one 8-room school; and in Sztablinvaros, one 20-room and one 10-room elementary school.

Many new high schools were built also, including the 16-classroom general high school at Csepel; the 9-classroom economic secondary school at Pestujhely; 12-classroom general high schools at Oroshaza, Ozd, and Diosgyor; the 14-classroom teachers training school at Balassagyarmat; the 8-classroom general high school at Torokszentmiklos; and an 8-classroom economic secondary school at Szekszard.

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New institutions of higher learning include the Miskolc Matyas Rakosi Technical University of Heavy Industry, the Veszprem Heavy Chemical Industry University, the Godollo University of Agriculture, and a large new building for the Karoly Marx University of Economics.

Despite the foregoing additions, investments for education have failed to keep pace with requirements. At the end of 1953 there was a shortage of classroom space in elementary and secondary schools, due partly to the increase in pupils and partly to the fact that investments in college-level education were carried out rapidly and resulted in the neglect of elementary and secondary schools. Whereas investments in high education were 3.2 times as great in 1952 as in 1950, investments for elementary and secondary schools during the same period had increased to only 1.5 times the 1950 figure. In 1952, the state invested 120 times as much on each college or university student as on a pupil of grade school.

Radio

Due to large-scale rural electrification, an increasing number of villages are now equipped with land-wired radios. The following table shows the number of villages equipped with land-wired radios and the number of radio subscribers from 1950 through 1954:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No of Villages</u>	<u>No of Radio Subscribers</u>
1950	7	1,600
1951	101	34,300
1952	183	120,600
1953	132	221,800
1954	13	250,000

From 1950 through 1954, the number of provincial culture homes and libraries has increased as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No of Culture Homes</u>	<u>No of Libraries</u>
1950	433	1,657
1951	1,279	2,937
1952	1,633	3,377
1953	1,858	3,819
1954	1,887	3,973

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